Young Lawyer Liaisons to WSBA Sections

2014-2015

Volunteer Position: Young Lawyer Liaison

Purpose: The Washington Young Lawyers Committee focuses on connecting new and young lawyers to the Washington State Bar Association, its resources, tools and member benefits. As part of this, the Washington Young Lawyers Committee appoints a young lawyer liaison to a majority of WSBA's 28 practice sections.

Benefits:

- Meet and connect with new lawyers to increase awareness and participation in WSBA Sections.
- Work with section volunteer leaders to assist with the development of section events and activities that support the professional development and education of new professionals.
- Connect with other young lawyer liaisons to seek partnership opportunities with other sections.
- Stay current and communicate the work of the Washington Young Lawyers Committee (WYLC) to sections.

General Duties: Young Lawyers Liaisons are asked to:

- be a member of the section to which appointed,
- attend at least two of three Young Lawyer Liaisons meetings,
- attend at least one WYLC meeting,
- write and submit at least two blog posts for NWSidebar on behalf of the section and/or add substantial content to the section's webpages. This content should cover substantive issues related to the section's practice area and target new practitioners. And finally,
- submit quarterly reports to the WYLC.

Qualifications:

- Must be licensed to practice law in Washington State.
- Must be a new and/or young lawyer as defined by the WSBA bylaws.
- Must submit a completed application and cover letter required.

Appointment and Term: For each section who would like a liaison, the WYLC solicits applicants and appoints a young lawyer to serve. The WYLC will consider feedback from the section executive committees in making the appointments. The term is two bar years, October 1st through September 30th. Liaisons may reapply to serve additional terms with a limit of two consecutive terms. Appointments made in the middle of the bar year are still subject to the bar year calendar.

Note: Current Young Lawyer Liaisons (2013-2014) may apply for a second term regardless of previous terms as a young lawyer liaison. This will be considered a second complete term.

General Program Responsibilities:

For the Section:

- Establish a clear communication channel for your liaison.
- Determine if funding should be allocated for the liaison to attend executive committee meetings, or for the section to host events/programming specifically targeted at new lawyers. The WYLC does not have funding available for the liaisons.
- Determine if the section will cover the expense of the liaison's section membership dues.
- Determine if the liaison will be a voting or nonvoting member of your executive committee. Note: this may require a change to the section's bylaws.
- Collaborate and assist liaison with fulfilling the requirements of the position.
- Provide opportunities for your liaison to give input, work on section projects, and develop their bar leadership skills and knowledge of the practice area.

For the Liaison:

- Fulfill requirements listed above.
- Serve as a link between the WYLC, new/young lawyers and the WSBA Section.
  - Maintain communication with the leadership of your assigned section.
  - Participate in section activities and work with leadership to define your role.
  - Stay aware of WYLC and other events targeted to new/young lawyers (like Open Sections Night or New Lawyer Education seminars) and look for opportunities to include your section membership and executive committee.
  - Attend orientation or other meetings where liaisons meet in-person or by phone.
- Work with your section to identify and develop its value to new lawyers.
  - Recruit new lawyers to participate in section events, membership, and leadership.
  - Correspond with young lawyers to understand how section membership could support them.
  - Disseminate information about relevant section and WYLC activities.
  - Collaborate with young lawyer liaisons of other sections to connect section leadership and partner on joint projects.

Complete the Application Form Online Today!

Questions: E-mail newlawyers@wsba.org.